



Issue No. 363

March 2021

## Gala Opening - Probud 2021 Royal Brighton Yacht Club



## Annual General Meeting Highett RSL

Tuesday March 16 10 am

Speaker: Michael Green

A Very Melbourne Life – Footy and the Law



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Simon Appel



In this my last epistle as President, I reflect on the continued contributions being made by so many Committee and other members of our Club under the most trying of conditions. I also reflect that my term as your President would be the first - and hopefully the only - term in which I have not had one face-to-face General Meeting! For the past 12 months, we have become accustomed to virtual meetings via Zoom. For gentlemen of our age, that is a major achievement in the use of computer technology.

Yet, despite the constraints, we have enjoyed a President's Lunch at Victoria Golf Club (thanks to Ken Beadle), together with the excellence of a Tastes experience at Royal Brighton Yacht Club (thanks to Geoff Bransbury), a Pub Lunch at the McKinnon Hotel (thanks to Roger Wilson), attended by over 30 Members and partners; as well as the wine groups who continued to meet (thanks to Grant Sabin and Roger Wilson), regular games of Bridge and the Discussion Group which continued to meet (thanks to Barry Amond).

Who said, "Dogged determination defies defeat"?

While my term as your President has been unusual, to say the least, it has been a real pleasure to have so much genuine support from Members. I now look forward to the Annual General Meeting on March 16 - hopefully at the Highett RSL, as planned - and to Chris Renwick taking over as our President with a few changes to the Committee members.

In conclusion, my sincere best wishes to you all.



*Above:  
President Simon Appel pays a visit to the Bridge Group's annual lunch at Victoria Golf Club*

*Below: The Bridge Group at lunch  
L to R: Tony Bowles and Alan Trumble; Jim Duggan (convenor), Norm Griffiths and Ken Beadle*



### Birthday Boys – March

NASH, Alan 6/3	POUND, John 6/3
KEYS, Graeme 8/3	AVERY, Tony 10/3
SIMPSON, Brian 10/3	CONNELL, Mev 11/3
HOWE, John 13/3	TOMKINS, Bruce 16/3
CRUTHERS, Bill 17/3	BUSHBY, John 20/3
FARMER, Alan 27/3	MASKIELL, Ian 27/3
WHITE, Ken 29/3	

*Below Left: Carol Ross, Paul Stephens, Lachlan McLean and Suzie Stephens enjoying Tastes*

*Below Right: Probus First Lady, Barbara Appel*

*Photos: Geoff Bransbury*



### Probus at Royal Brighton Yacht Club

*Left to right: Ian Marchment with guest, Gai Thomas; Barb & Don Lobb; Duncan Gibson and Simon Appel; John Beatty, Tony and Jill Phillips, David Rushworth; Lisa Hill and Tim Harding, John Hewison.*

# NOTICEBOARD

## Treasurer

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are due and payable on January 1 each year. It is now March and there remain some subscriptions outstanding. Payment of subscriptions at \$40 for the 2021 year may be paid at our next General Meeting, or direct to our bank account, or by cheque to Geoff Carlson, Treasurer, 105 / 216 Bay Road, Sandringham.

## Wine Discovery



*Last month the Wine Discovery Group, led by Grant Sabin, tasted a selection of Tassie sparklings. No bad wines, just different scores according to differing palates. One that achieved some high marks was Josef Chromy's Pepik Cuvee NV. A bargain at around \$28.*

*Interestingly, but not unusual, a wine with a number of gold medals did not get the highest rating. The next meeting will explore some dessert wines.*

*Alan Stevens*



Recently, Bob Wigg and I drove up to Nagambie to stock up our wine cellars at the Tahbilk Warehouse Sale. We bought a number of cases - including some from cancelled Chinese

orders and below half price. An enjoyable outing that saved us thousands.

*Grant Sabin*

## Wine Appreciation

The annual lunch at the Steak Bank was a great success for the 14 members who attended. The Two Magnums of Torbreck Shiraz from the Barossa Valley –The Stuie 2015 and The Woodcutter 2018 - went down well with some magnificent steaks, chips and salad. Our next meeting is at Barry Amond's home on Tuesday May 25 at 2 pm.

### Suggestions please: Trip ideas needed

It's been a long time since we went on trips together. We are hoping to arrange day outings and perhaps an extended trip. BUT WE NEED YOUR SUGGESTIONS both for one day or extended trips. Please put your ideas in the form on our website. [CLICK HERE](#)

Geoff Bransbury

## Priscilla Queen of the Desert

Theatre visit to CLOC  
2 pm on Sunday May 9  
at The National Theatre,  
Barkly Street, St Kilda.

Our leading local musical theatre company returns to the stage with this rip-roaring comedy. A block booking is planned to get the best seats at a discounted price of \$50/pp. Commitment required by March 18. Please book on-line NOW. You will be reminded at the March General Meeting.

[Click Here](#) for registration



## Golf News

Current golf activities - awakening from their Covid19 slumbers - are now fully booked. The Probus Elson Trophy competition - scheduled for Wednesday March 24 at the Sandhurst Golf Club - has 16 players registered.



Also, our three-day competition at the Murray Downs Resort in April, is fully booked with all 17 available apartments having been taken up. There will be 26 golfers and eight non-golfing spouses at the venue. In addition to playing golf on the best rated Murray River course, we have scheduled a welcome BBQ, and a balcony dinner at *Spoons* restaurant in Swan Hill.

John Pound

## Theatre

For information about forthcoming theatre events, contact Theatre Convenor, Graham Ball - [gg.ball@bigpond.com](mailto:gg.ball@bigpond.com)

## Pub Lunch

Roger Wilson

We will meet at Doyle's Mordialloc Hotel Café on Wednesday March 31. [CLICK HERE](#) to book  
Cost: \$30pp + drinks at bar prices.

### Photos p1:

- 1 John Smyth, Robert Lander, John Fisher
- 2 Elizabeth & Peter Harford
- 3 Helen Hewison, Nick & Anne Caris
- 4 Tina Wigg, Sandy McKenzie, Marlene Byass
- 5 Jill & Ian Johnson
- 6 Jenny & Tony Bowles, Dick Kirby
- 7 Janice Kirby, Bill & Jenny Cleland

For a full report on Peter Anderson's fascinating talk on the many transport issues facing Melbourne in the future, see p4





# The Last Word

## When More Means Less

Peter Anderson, CEO, of the Victorian Transport Association delivered a wide-ranging presentation at our February meeting on the state of Victoria's transport and its future. We were amazed to learn that 979 472 trucks operate throughout Australia, heavy vehicles representing less than 10% of all road users. (More than 4.5 tonnes is regarded as a truck; less than that, a commercial vehicle, of which there are six times more than heavy vehicles.) Their key role in society is highlighted during times of temporary crises, such as the recent COVID19 emergencies, when people panic in supermarkets and increase demand for some items such as toilet paper by a factor of five. Without trucks, there would be no food available for households (and no toilet paper!).



*"...community issues are always a delicate balance between the economy and people's amenity."*

In Victoria, current major projects such as rail crossing removals, regional and rural rail and road upgrades, the Metro rail project, the widening of the Tullamarine Freeway, upgrades around the Port of Melbourne and the West Gate Tunnel project are all necessary to increase the efficiency of transport around the state. What many don't appreciate is that bigger trucks equal fewer trips on our roads;

however, there must always be a balance between community amenity and economic efficiency. What needs to be remembered is that when residents demand a reduction of through traffic in their streets, an additional cost is imposed on operators and the supply chain. Curfews, for example, mean trucks have to take a wide circle around Melbourne to get to their destinations.

Similarly, developers of high rise buildings are often oblivious of the needs of transport infrastructure (for example, around Webb Dock) so that people move into their expensive accommodation unaware of the necessity of trucks to come and go night and day. As always, Peter said, such community issues are always a delicate balance between the economy and people's amenity. His one bright note for the future was his confidence that transport would eventually come to rely on hydrogen as a fuel in the years ahead.

Peter McGregor

[Click Here](#) for more.

## Book Review

*The Red Notice - How I became Putin's No 1 enemy* by Bill Browder.

This is a true story written about Browder's own experiences as founder and CEO of Hermitage Capital Management, the largest foreign investor in Russia until 2005, when he was denied entry to the country after exposing widespread corruption. Based on a conviction in absentia in the Russian courts on false charges, Browder was the subject of a Red Notice (An Interpol communication that requests the arrest of wanted persons). It is not an elaborate fiction about government corruption, espionage, murder and criminal victimisation in Russia. Every word is true. A great read.

John Hewison

## PROBUS CLUB OF BEAUMARIS Inc.

### \* Office Bearers 2021

\* Committee Members

* President: <b>Simon Appel</b>	9585 6956
* Past President: <b>Keith Ross</b>	9589 3580
* Treasurer: <b>Geoff Carlson</b>	9589 4884
* Functions: <b>Ken Beadle</b>	9589 6120
* Meetings: <b>Geoff Wade</b>	9588 2593
* Webmaster: <b>Geoff Bransbury</b>	9589 1507
* Newsletter: <b>Peter McGregor</b>	0418 322 987
* Welfare: <b>Alan Stevens</b>	0418 336 354
Sommelier: <b>Bill Green</b>	9596 1548
Audio Visual: <b>Paul Crompton</b>	9583 1310
Archive: <b>John Howe</b>	9598 2429

* Vice-President: <b>Chris Renwick</b>	0419 927 536
* Secretary: <b>John Smyth</b>	0438 619 189
Assistant Secretary: <b>Garry Sebo</b>	0419 340 565
* Assistant Functions: <b>Graham Ball</b>	9598 4125
Assistant Meetings: <b>Barrie Gibson</b>	9589 3902
Assistant Meetings: <b>Graeme Keys</b>	9585 7297
* Membership: <b>Peter Flude</b>	0405127271
Auditor: <b>Robert Lander</b>	0435 930 082
Recorder: <b>Grant Sabin</b>	9598 4768
Projectionist: <b>Philip Stewart</b>	9589 3309
Photographer: <b>Alan Stevens</b>	0418 336 354

### \* Interest Groups

Bike Riding: <b>Duncan Gibson</b>	9585 3547
<b>Ken Beadle</b>	9589 6120
Discussion: <b>Barry Amond</b>	9515 0725
Bridge: <b>Jim Duggan</b>	0432 150 675
Travel: <b>Simon Appel</b>	9585 6956

Golf: <b>John Pound</b>	9521 8252
Digital Technology: <b>Geoff Wade</b>	9588 2593
PRISMS: <b>Alan Nash</b>	9589 2934
Wine Discovery: <b>Grant Sabin</b>	9598 4768